

Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens – U.S. Embassy, Quito, Ecuador

Pamphlet Bombings in Ecuador

December 22, 2011

The U.S. Embassy in Quito and the U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil advise U.S. citizens in Ecuador that on December 19, 2011, three small explosive devices designed to distribute pamphlets containing a political message went off almost simultaneously in Quito, Cuenca, and Guayaquil. The pamphlets sought to protest a visit to Ecuador by the President of Colombia. These small pamphlet bombs all detonated in public places: in Quito, in front of a high school; in Cuenca, in the historic Parque Calderon; and in Guayaquil it was thrown from a bus near the Colombian consulate. No injuries were reported in any of these incidents.

In November, at least three small pamphlet bombs were also used to target Ecuadorian government buildings. These kinds of devices can be placed anywhere and vary in their strength. Though they are not usually designed to cause harm, they have caused injuries in the past.

As always, U.S. citizens in Ecuador should be aware of their surroundings at all times, avoid areas where political demonstrations are being held, and should not approach suspicious packages.

Americans living or traveling in Ecuador are encouraged to enroll with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate in order to obtain updated information on travel and security within Ecuador through the [Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#).

U.S. citizens should consult the [Country Specific Information](#) for Ecuador and the latest Travel Alerts and Warnings and Worldwide Caution at the [Department's website](#). Updated information on travel and security in Ecuador may also be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States or by calling 1-202-501-4444 outside the United States.

The [U.S. Embassy in Quito](#) is located at Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro

- The telephone number for American Citizen Service (ACS) inquiries is (011 593-2) 398-5000. Within the same city use the last seven digits. Add the city code for intercity telephone calls.
- Public call-in hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. and Friday 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- For after-hours emergencies, contact the Embassy at (011 593-2) 398-5200.
- Appointments for ACS are available through our [website](#).

The [U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil](#) is located at the corner of Avenida 9 de Octubre and Garcia Moreno (near the Hotel Oro Verde).

- The telephone number for ACS inquiries is (011-593-4) 232-3570 during business hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or 232-1152 for after-hours emergencies.

Anyone can follow the activities of the U.S. Embassy in Ecuador through the [Embassy website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).